

Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the County of Monterey, State of California

Resolution No. 12-042

Resolution urging Governor Brown to reexamine the registration of Methyl iodide for agricultural use in California, and further encouraging that more energy and funding be directed to the development of non-fumigant alternatives to Methyl iodide and other synthetic pesticides.....)

WHEREAS, in Monterey County, methyl bromide is the number one pesticide used in all agriculture production; and

WHEREAS, in 1987 the United States agreed to phase out methyl bromide by 2005 under the Montreal Protocol of the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, methyl iodide has been approved for use as a replacement to methyl bromide; and

WHEREAS, methyl iodide is listed as a carcinogen under California's Proposition 65 statute; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency's own evaluation indicates that methyl iodide is a thyroid toxin and causes permanent neurological damage, as well as fetal harm, including late-term miscarriages, in experimental animals; and

WHEREAS, 54 scientists from the National Academy of Sciences, including six Nobel Laureates in Chemistry, issued a letter urging the United States Environmental Protection Agency not to register methyl iodide because of the high risks it poses to human health; and

WHEREAS, methyl iodide is a known water pollutant, and soil fumigation with methyl iodide poses a risk of groundwater contamination; and

WHEREAS, despite the legally required protections, application procedures, buffer zones, and other mitigations put forward by DPR, there is an overwhelming body of scientific evidence that validates the concern that these mitigations are not adequate to protect farmworkers and the public from dangerous exposure to this pesticide.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors hereby urges Governor Jerry Brown to initiate proceedings to re-evaluate, on a scientific basis, the registration of methyl iodide for agricultural use in California.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors strongly encourages the United State Department of Agriculture, the University of California, and other research arms to direct more energy and funding toward the development of non-fumigant alternatives to methyl iodide and other synthetic pesticides.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012, upon motion of Supervisor Armenta, seconded by Supervisor Salinas by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Armenta, Salinas, Parker, and Potter  
NOES: Supervisor Calcagno  
ABSENT: None

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book 76 for the meeting on February 14, 2012.

Dated: February 17, 2012

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Monterey, State of California

By *J. Denise Hancock*  
Deputy